

death-row prisoners have been exonerated of all charges related to the wrongful convictions that had put them on death row. We cannot continue to employ a system of punishment that has such a high risk of taking innocent life.

The United States stands out among our allies and other democracies in its use of the death penalty. Many of our allies consider it a gross violation of human rights. Defending human rights abuses abroad has been a key pillar of U.S. foreign policy, but the continued use of the death penalty at home undermines our global standing and enables other countries to criticize other diplomatic efforts.

Under the Trump Administration's Department of Justice, executions of federal death-row prisoners have recently resumed for the first time since 2003. In the midst of our current public health crisis, the Department of Justice has executed more people in six months than the total number executed over the previous six decades.

Most Americans know that the death penalty does not represent justice in our country. It is cruel, inhumane, arbitrary and clearly discriminatory. It is time for us to finally abolish the death penalty.

CONDEMNING THE JANUARY 6TH ATTACK ON THE CAPITOL

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in outrage and sadness at the insurrection and attempted coup we saw in this very building on January 6. There is no doubt this attack was instigated by President Trump and responsibility for the violence rests with him and his supporters who ransacked the People's House.

I'd like to include in the RECORD the following statement from my constituents, the Youngstown Warren Black Caucus write:

The Youngstown Warren Black Caucus is outraged by the act of domestic terrorists at our nations' Capitol Building yesterday. Although we are angry and saddened, we agree with our 44th President Barack Obama's statement that it was not a total surprise.

Donald Trump and many Republican members of Congress who attempted to disenfranchise the votes of 81 million citizens have been encouraging insurrection by their voters. Even after multiple recounts, legal defeats, and explanation of the constitution and how elections are run, Trump continued to spout lies about the election that he lost. He and his personal attorney Rudy Giuliani have been telling their supporters for 2 months that the election was fraudulent and that there was a chance they could change the outcome if people just complained, protested, and demanded they won knowing full well the outcome could not be changed. While the majority of the nation understood that was untrue, their most loyal supporters believed them. For his final act of defiance to democracy, Trump invited thousands of supporters to DC yesterday for a rally and march to the Capitol building to "stop the steal" before Congress would certify the Electoral College votes that have already been certified by every state in the nation. Sadly, they listened to the instructions of these liars and our nations' Capitol building

was breached for the first time since the War of 1812.

Besides the obvious need to punish anyone who broke the law, we believe those who incited this insurrection must be held accountable for the betrayal to our nation. That includes Trump and members of Congress who attempted to throw out the results of the presidential election and Insurrection is a criminal act which is why we join the NAACP, Urban League, and National Action Network in calling for the resignation or removal of Donald Trump. He is anything but a patriot.

Last, but certainly not least, our members are appalled by the continued disparate treatment by law enforcement between white and black Americans. Back in June of 2020 a peaceful protest by Black Lives Matter demonstrators outside the White House was charged by numerous law enforcement entities to clear a block so that Trump could walk across the street and hold a Bible upside down outside a neighborhood church. Conversely, the angry mob of thousands of rioters were met with little resistance. Some Capitol police held the doors open for the rioters, others took pictures with them as they headed towards Congressional Chambers and offices to vandalize, steal, and destroy federal property.

The event made it painfully clear that there are 2 justice systems in America. One for black and brown people and their white allies, and a separate one for domestic terrorists who embrace white supremacy. It is ridiculous that we are still having this conversation 245 years after the founding of this nation. America must live up to her promise of "and justice for all."

I thank the Capitol Police and other law enforcement personnel for their work to protect Members and all who work in the Capitol Complex. However, it is obvious that there were systematic breakdowns in security that need to be addressed. We must get to the bottom of these breakdowns and prevent them from ever happening again.

HONORING KRISTINE SVINICKI

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that I take a few moments to recognize the tremendous career of public service of Ms. Kristine Svinicki, who recently announced that she will step down later this month as Chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

As the Representative of Idaho's Second Congressional District and Chair and Ranking Member of the House Energy and Water Appropriations subcommittee, I have spent my career advocating for the expanded use of safe and reliable nuclear energy. In that effort, I had the distinct pleasure to work closely with Kristine in a number of capacities, and like everyone else who has worked with her, I found her to be a consummate professional and dedicated public servant.

After graduating from the University of Michigan with a degree in nuclear engineering, Kristine's career led her to the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy and the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management. Her time with DOE also included a stop at the Department's Idaho Operation Office in

Idaho Falls. Kristine was later detailed by the DOE to the U.S. Senate where she supported Idaho Senator Latta Craig on a variety of energy issues. After a stint with the Senate Armed Services Committee, in 2007 President George W. Bush nominated Kristine to serve as a Commissioner on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and in 2017, President Donald J. Trump designated her as Chairman.

During her three terms at the NRC, Kristine brought unparalleled knowledge, passion and leadership to her work. Kristine never came to a meeting unprepared, and I always left hearings and meetings with her impressed by her insights and persuasiveness.

As the nuclear industry has faced challenges, the federal government has worked to support the current fleet of reactors as appropriate, to modernize the regulatory process to allow advanced reactor technologies to enter the market and to right-size the staff at the NRC. In all of those issues, Commissioner and Chairman Svinicki brought a steady hand and a constructive "let's get to work" attitude to the process.

Chairman Svinicki's commitment to public service has been exceptional and she is a role model for those who want to serve our government and make an impact in a positive way. Kristine blazed her own trail, and she will leave behind scores of friends, colleagues and coworkers who will miss her intellect, her commitment to public service and her wry sense of humor.

While Kristine was born and raised in Michigan, we in Idaho like to claim her as one of our own. I am so proud of all Kristine has accomplished, and more importantly how she did it. On behalf of so many grateful Americans, I want to say thank you to Kristine for her service and extend my best wishes in the future.

OPPOSITION TO H. RES. 21

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H. Res. 21 and its invocation for Vice President MIKE PENCE to activate Section 4 of the 25th Amendment.

The Resolution appears to be ill-conceived, vindictive and disassociated from any factual basis. There is no medical, scientific or other evidence that the President is operating under an infirmity that prevents the faithful execution of our laws. Indeed, no one even so much as asked for such evidence. No independent medical exam was sought. No interviews of cabinet members or testimony was proffered where one or more cabinet members could have presumably attested to some medical or physical infirmity warranting immediate intervention.

While it is true the President has his detractors, almost all of whom support this ill-advised resolution, attacking one's political opponents by invoking the most dramatic and emergency based provisions in the Constitution is reckless and poses serious harm to the Republic. Unfortunately, as it has been brought to the floor, the political bar has been lowered. I voted no as there is no merit to it and it is plainly a vengeful attack at the outgoing President who has been vilified by leftist